



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 5, 2002

Mr. Tom Newman
Holcim (US), Inc.
Geology, Building A
4629 North Overland Trail
P. O. Box 1468
LaPorte, Colorado 80535-1468

Re: Reclamation of Disturbed Area, Holcim (US), Inc., Skull Valley Diatomaceous Earth, S/045/060, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Newman:

On May 24, 2002, I received your letter concerning an inquiry from Brian Tucker of the Tooele County Department of Engineering, Planning Division. I would like to clarify our position on certain issues with regard to the Skull Valley Diatomaceous Earth project. The exploration notice of intention E/045/132 and the small mine notice of intention S/045/048 have both been retired and replaced with small mine notice of intention S/045/060.

You initially disturbed about five acres, but this area has been regraded and seeded. In your notice of intention, you indicated that you would like to continue to disturb other areas under a small mine notice (less than five acres) and that you would conduct contemporaneous reclamation so that the area of active mining is never more than five acres at a time.

Although the Division cannot fully release any area until it is successfully revegetated and three years have elapsed since the last seeding, we can allow you to proceed under a small mine notice once mined areas have been regraded and seeded. The current disturbed area meets these criteria, and this allows you to disturb additional areas.

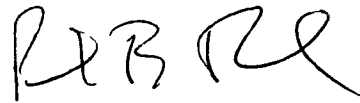
My January 18, 2002, letter, wherein the Division approved the new notice, S/045/060, contains a paragraph indicating you need to either have the current area released or apply for a large mine permit if you intend to disturb more areas. The terminology used in this letter was not correct, and I apologize for the confusion this has probably caused. The current disturbed area

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does not need to be fully released before you disturb additional areas; rather, as stated above, the area needs to be satisfactorily graded and seeded which you have done.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please let me know if you need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. B. Baker', with a stylized, cursive script.

Paul B. Baker
Senior Reclamation Biologist

jb
cc: Cheryl Martinez, BLM, SLFO
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